

BALGO YOUTH SERVICE — FUNDING

542. Hon SHELLEY EATON to the Minister for Child Protection:

- (1) Has the government allocated funds for the youth service in Balgo?
- (2) If not, why not?
- (3) Has the government allocated funds for the upgrade or construction of a new youth service building in Balgo?
- (4) If not, why not?

Hon HELEN MORTON replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question, which I answer on behalf of the Minister for Child Protection.

- (1) The Department for Child Protection has advised that it has liaised with relevant commonwealth and state government agencies and the local organisations to ensure that the service is maintained in Balgo, and also in Billiluna and Mulan. The commonwealth Attorney-General's department has informed the department that it has allocated \$200 000 in 2009-10, and Palyalatju Maparnpa Health Committee has approximately \$70 000 in grant funds to carry over. Together these funds are sufficient to continue the program in 2009-10. If necessary, the department will provide additional funding in 2009-10 and subsequent years to ensure that these services are maintained.
- (2) If necessary, the Department for Child Protection will provide additional funding for the 2009-10 year to ensure that services continue. The department is committed to ensuring that youth services in Balgo continue in the longer term.
- (3) The department has not been involved in any discussions, or received any requests, about funding for the upgrade or construction of a building for the youth service in Balgo.
- (4) See response to (3).